

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to bring ULFA activists to the mainstream of the nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Three rounds of talks with Peoples' consultative Group (PCG) set up by United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) had been held. The Government had agreed to favourably consider the request of ULFA for release of five ULFA detenues in consultation with the Government of Assam provided ULFA makes formal approach to Government of India/Government of Assam for holding direct talks, nominates the delegation for these talks, indicates the time frame and abjures violence in all forms including extortions, notices etc. Efforts with Peoples' Consultative Group representatives for holding these talks were continued even after three rounds through mutual initiatives. Government had also declared unilateral suspension of operations by Army against ULFA from 13.08.2006 to 20.09.2006 with a view to create a conducive atmosphere for holding of peace talks. Since there was no direct response from ULFA and reports were received of regrouping, new raisings, violence and extortion by ULFA cadres, Counter Insurgency operations against ULFA have been resumed.

(c) The Government is open to talks with any militant group provided they shun violence. However, Government is duty bound to protect the lives and property of its citizens.

Socio-Economic discrimination, a cause of Naxalism

†793. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that socio-economic discrimination is the major cause for the increasing naxalism in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government have contemplated to take other steps, besides the plans being operated for the socio-economic groups of the society; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRISRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Under-development and lack of socio-economic justice are among the main factors that give rise to the spread of naxalism in some parts of the country.

(b) to (d) The Government have been pursuing a twin approach to address the menace of naxalism: to take effective and sustained police action against naxal groups and their infrastructure and to ensure accelerated socio-economic development in the naxal affected areas. The naxal affected States have been asked to set up special delivery mechanisms and encourage people centric development programmes in the affected areas.

Bangladesh based terrorist organisations in NE

†794. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any information that Bangladesh based terrorist organisations are operating terrorist activities in the North-Eastern States of the country;

(b) if so, the fact in this regard; and

(c) the names of such Bangladesh terrorist organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Seizure of durgs in Delhi

†795. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drugs worth crores were seized in August, 2006 in Delhi; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.